

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAHORE 00310 250728Z

17

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

SAM-01 FEA-02 OMB-01 EB-11 INT-08 COME-00 TRSE-00

ACDA-19 SR-02 ORM-03 CCO-00 DRC-01 /172 W

----- 026502

O 250630Z FEB 74

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9888

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD NIACT IMMEDIATE

USINT CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

USINT DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI NIACT IMMEDIATE

USINT ALGIERS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS LAHORE 0310

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF

SUBJECT: ISLAMIC SUMMIT: SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: LAHORE 0289, 0302, 0306

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 LAHORE 00310 250728Z

1. SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTING LAHORE FOR NEW DELHI MID-

DAY SUNDAY, FEB 24, EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT GAVE BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE (LAHORE 0302); SUMMARY OF SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS TO CROWDED PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWS:

2. ARAB-ISRAEL: SADAT EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT DIS-ENGAGEMENT WILL TAKE PLACE ON SYRIAN-ISRAELI FRONT. HE EMPHATICALLY REPUDIATED SUGGESTION THAT ANY DIFFERENCE OF OPINION EXISTED BETWEEN HIM AND SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD (COMMENT: IN SADAT'S SUMMIT SPEECH DAY BEFORE HE SPECIFICALLY ASSOCIATED HIMSELF WITH SUBSTANCE OF ASSAD'S SUMMIT SPEECH -- SEE LAHORE 0306). AFTER DISENGAGEMENT ON SYRIAN FRONT, SADAT TOLD REPORTERS, NEXT PHASE WOULD BE CONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE; "WE CANNOT GO TO GENEVA WITHOUT SYRIA." REPLYING TO QUESTION, HE SAID THERE WOULD BE "NO PEACE" IF THERE IS NO DISENGAGEMENT AND IF ISRAEL IS NOT REQUIRED TO VACATE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HE EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT US IS CHANGING ITS ME POLICY AND SAID THAT HE BASED THIS OPINION ON HIS MEETINGS WITH US SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER; "THERE IS A CHANGE," HE SAID, "AFTER THE DARK ERA OF JOHNSON."

3. PALESTINE: REPORTERS ASKED WHETHER A PALESTINIAN GOVT IN EXILE WOULD BE SET UP AND, IF SO, WOULD BE INVITED TO ATTEND GENEVA CONFERENCE. SADAT SAID THAT FOR BOTH EGYPT AND SYRIA IT WAS "IMPERATIVE" THAT PALESTINIANS TAKE PART IN CONFERENCE. "PALESTINE IS THE CORE OF THE PROBLEM," HE SAID; WITHOUT PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION THERE COULD BE NO PROGRESS. SADAT THEN TOLD NEWSMEN, UNDER FURTHER QUESTIONING, THAT "IT WAS MY PROPOSAL THAT A GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE BE SET UP"; IT IS NOW, HE SAID, UP TO PLO TO TAKE FINAL DECISION ON QUESTION.

4. OIL: SADAT SAID USE OF OIL WEAPON HAD PROVEN VERY EFFECTIVE, WITH IMPACT ON ENTIRE WORLD, PARTICULARLY IN EUROPE, JAPAN AND US. IT MUST NOT, HOWEVER, BE CONSIDERED AS BLACKMAIL BUT AS "A MESSAGE TO THE WHOLE WORLD TO APPRECIATE THE CAUSE OF THE ARABS AND ALLOW THEM TO HAVE A PLACE UNDER THE SUN." SADAT SAID ISSUE OF OIL UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 LAHORE 00310 250728Z

EMBARGO AGAINST US WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT MEETING OF MINISTERS OF OIL-PRODUCING ARAB COUNTRIES TO BE HELD IN MARCH. HE SAID LIFTING OF EMBARGO AGAINST US WAS POSSIBLE AND ARAB LEADERS MIGHT CONSIDER IT PROVIDED USG TAKES "PRACTICAL STEPS" IN DOING JUSTICE TO ARAB CAUSE. HE STATED THAT THERE WAS NO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROPOSED VISIT TO CAIRO TO DISCUSS DISENGAGEMENT QUESTION AND ANY LIFTING OF OIL EMBARGO

AGAINST US. COMMENTING ON LIBYAN PRESIDENT QADHAFI'S THREE-TIERED OIL PLAN (LAHORE 0289), SADAT SAID CONFERENCE HAS SET UP A COMMITTEE ENTRUSTED WITH DISCUSSING THE QUESTION WITH ARAB MINISTERS OF OIL-PRODUCING STATES BEFORE THEIR MARCH MEETING. HE ADDED THAT AFRICAN STATES "ARE NOT UNHAPPY" WITH ARAB OIL-PRODUCING STATES OVER OIL SUPPLY ISSUE AND SAID "SOME ARRANGEMENTS" HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE THROUGH ARAB LEAGUE TO HELP THEM, AND THAT FURTHER MEASURES TO EASE SITUATION WOULD BE TAKEN.

5. BANGLADESH: SADAT EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT WITH PAKISTAN'S RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH PROBLEM OF POW TRIALS WOULD BE QUICKLY SETTLED. HE PRAISED BHUTTO FOR TAKING "VERY DARING AND COURAGEOUS DECISION" AND ASSURED REPORTERS THAT THERE WOULD BE RESPONSE FROM MUJIBUR RAHMAN. HE DECLINED COMMENT WHEN ASKED WHAT ROLE HE HAD PLAYED IN BRINGING PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH TOGETHER.KING

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